

106TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 2938

To prohibit United States assistance to the Palestinian Authority if a Palestinian state is declared unilaterally, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 26, 2000

Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself and Mr. SCHUMER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

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## A BILL

To prohibit United States assistance to the Palestinian Authority if a Palestinian state is declared unilaterally, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Middle East Peace  
5       Process Support Act”.

6       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7       The Congress finds that—

8               (1) it is only through direct negotiations be-  
9       tween the parties that progress toward peace has  
10      been and can be achieved in the Middle East;

1           (2) the process that began with the signing of  
2           the Oslo accords in 1993 has created an important  
3           negotiating framework between Israel and the Pal-  
4           estinians that has produced the promise of an end  
5           to the conflict;

6           (3) as part of the Oslo accords, Palestinian  
7           Chairman Arafat committed that “all outstanding  
8           issues relating to permanent status will be resolved  
9           through negotiations”;

10          (4) the repeated Palestinian threat to declare  
11          an independent state unilaterally after September  
12          13, 2000, is contrary to both the spirit and letter of  
13          the Oslo accords;

14          (5) the unilateral declaration of an independent  
15          Palestinian state will inevitably lead to violence and  
16          the end of the negotiating process;

17          (6) the United States agreed to provide assist-  
18          ance to the Palestinians only after the Oslo accords  
19          were signed in order to help advance the cause of  
20          peace;

21          (7) on March 11, 1999, the Senate overwhelm-  
22          ingly adopted Senate Concurrent Resolution 5, and  
23          on March 16, 1999, the House of Representatives  
24          adopted House Concurrent Resolution 24, both of  
25          which resolved that: “any attempt to establish Pales-

1        tinian statehood outside the negotiating process will  
2        invoke the strongest Congressional opposition”; and  
3            (8) on July 25, 2000, Palestinian Chairman  
4        Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Barak issued a  
5        joint statement agreeing that the “two sides under-  
6        stand the importance of avoiding unilateral actions  
7        that prejudice the outcome of negotiations and that  
8        their differences will be resolved in good-faith nego-  
9        tiations.

10 **SEC. 3. PROHIBITION ON UNITED STATES ASSISTANCE.**

11        Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for the  
12        period beginning on the date on which a Palestinian state  
13        is unilaterally declared and ending on the date on which  
14        such unilateral declaration of Palestinian statehood is  
15        rescinded—

16            (1) No funds made available by any provision of  
17        law may be provided directly or indirectly to the Pal-  
18        estinian Authority or to any successor or related en-  
19        tity; and

20            (2) No funds made available by any provision of  
21        law may be used to extend United States recognition  
22        to such a unilaterally-declared Palestinian state, in-  
23        cluding, but not limited to, funds for the payment of  
24        the salary of any ambassador, consul, or other diplo-  
25        matic personnel to such a state, or for the cost of

1        establishing, operating, or maintaining an embassy,  
2        consulate, or other diplomatic facility in such a  
3        state.

4    **SEC. 4. OPPOSITION TO UNITED NATIONS ADMISSION OR**  
5        **RECOGNITION.**

6        The President shall instruct the United States rep-  
7        resentative to the United Nations to use the voice, vote,  
8        and influence of the United States to oppose, in the  
9        United Nations Security Council, General Assembly, or  
10       any other United Nations body, admission to the United  
11       Nations of a unilaterally-declared Palestinian state or for-  
12       mal recognition by the United Nations of such a state.

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